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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT NO.	25X1
SUBJECT	Fortifications Between Lozen and Ivaylovgrad	DATE DISTR.	18 September 1953
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1. The highway joining the towns of Lyubimets (N 41-50, E 26-05) and Ivaylovgrad is heavily fortified. This stretch of road passes through a mountainous region and crosses the Arda River northwest of Ivaylovgrad.
2. The fortifications consist of bunkers, concrete machine gun nests, antitank obstacles, trenches, and bridge barriers. These fortifications are shown in sketches [redacted] attached as appendices.
3. There are eight bunkers along the road located at the following positions:
- On a height about 1,200 meters northwest of Lozen (N 41-49, E 26-01);
 - Approximately 1,500 meters northeast of Malko Gradishte (N 41-46, E 25-59), and about 800 meters from the highway;
 - Approximately 1,500 meters south of Lozen and about 70 meters east of Malko Gradishte;
 - Approximately 2.5 kilometers south of Lozen and about 50 meters west of the highway; and
 - Four bunkers located approximately 800 meters north of Ivaylovgrad and 80 meters north of the row of trenches directly north of the city.
4. The bunkers, which are made of reinforced concrete, are approximately two meters long, two meters wide, and two meters high. Each of the four walls is 50 to 60 centimeters thick and has an opening for weapons.

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5. Three machine gun nests are located at the following positions:
 - a. Approximately 1,500 meters north of Kamilski Dol (N 41-36, E 26-03);
 - b. Approximately 800 meters south of Kamilski Dol; and
 - c. Approximately three kilometers south of the Arda River bridge and to the south of the highway.
6. The machine gun nests are made of reinforced concrete. They consist of a front wall which is approximately two and one-half meters wide, 1.8 meters high, and 50-60 centimeters thick, with an opening approximately 1.5 meters wide and 30 centimeters high at a point one meter above the ground. Two side walls jut back from this wall at an obtuse angle. They are four meters apart at their ends. The side walls are approximately 1.5 meters long 50-60 centimeters wide. The nests are open in the back and top. They are built with one side parallel to the road.
7. There are over 100 tank obstacles along the highway. Twenty of these are placed in the 2.5 kilometer stretch between Kamilski Dol and the Arda bridge. All of these obstacles were built during the summer of 1951.
8. The tank obstacles consist of a reinforced concrete block on either side of the road. One of the blocks is stationary and has the following dimensions: 2.5 meters wide, three meters long, and 1.8-2 meters high. The block occupies 30-50 centimeters of the road. The second block is 2.5 meters wide, 3.5-4 meters long, and 1.8-2 meters high. This block occupies approximately 80 centimeters of the road. The block is mounted on two wooden logs on which it can be pushed into position on the road.
9. Some of the tank obstacles are placed exactly opposite each other, leaving approximately 2.5 meters of road space, while others are placed at an angle so that in their final position their ends would overlap in the center of the road.
10. There are six rows of trenches in the Ivaylovgrad - Lozen region. All of these trenches are approximately 1.5 meters deep and one meter wide. Most of the trench walls are covered with branches. There are trenches at the following locations:
 - a. A row of trenches approximately seven kilometers in length starts about 2.2 kilometers east of Lozen, follows a line to a point about one kilometer east of the village, and then turns south following the road at a distance varying between 700 and 800 meters;
 - b. A row of trenches approximately two kilometers in length starts about one kilometer west of Malko Gradishte and runs along the heights 400 meters from the road;
 - c. A row of trenches approximately two kilometers in length starts about one kilometer north of Kamilski Dol and follows the heights 200 to 300 meters from the road;
 - d. A row of trenches approximately two kilometers in length starts about 400-500 meters west of Kamilski Dol and follows the heights alongside the road to the Arda River, where the trenches turn west and follow the river;
 - e. A row of trenches approximately 1.5 kilometers in length starts about 1.8 kilometers west of Ivaylovgrad and forms a semicircle facing the highway; and
 - f. An S-shaped row of trenches over 2.5 kilometers in length is located 500 meters north of Ivaylovgrad. These trenches are supported by four bunkers on the northern side.

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11. There is a gate at each end of the Arda River bridge which can be lowered to form a barrier. The barriers are constructed as follows:
- There are two reinforced concrete blocks, approximately 1.2 meters apart, on both sides of the road, and flush with the side of the road; the blocks are two meters high, 2.8 meters long, and two meters wide;
 - The gate is composed of two wooden beams, each 40 centimeters thick, and eight meters long; two steel girders, two to three centimeters thick and eight meters long, are placed between and partly underneath the wooden beams, for reinforcement; these girders are L-shaped, with 10-centimeter sides; the beams and the steel girders are bolted together in four or five places;
 - The fulcrum of the gate is a steel rod which is five centimeters in diameter, and which is cemented into the blocks at a height of about 80 centimeters and two meters from the ends of the blocks facing the road; and
 - The concrete blocks across the road from the fulcrum have a smaller block between them; this small block is used as a resting place for the gate when it is lowered; the smaller block is 80 centimeters high, 1.2 meters long, and 1-1.2 meters wide.

NOTE: The gate is at present lifted at a 30-degree angle to the highway.

12. In addition to the barriers, there is a special antitank obstacle on each side of the bridge to guard its approaches. Each of these obstacles consists of a stationary reinforced concrete block on one side of the road, and a movable block on the other side of the road, directly opposite the stationary block. The stationary block is 2.5 meters wide, 2.5 meters long, and 2.5 meters high. The movable block is 2.5 meters wide, 4.5 meters long and 2-2.5 meters high.

13. Mine fields are located in the areas between the border and Svilengrad, and south of Chernichevo (N41-21, E 25-47), Ivaylovgrad Okoliya.

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14. A VNOS (Vuzdushno Nablyudenie Opovestyavane i Svurska; Air Observation, Information, and Communications; i.e. early warning service) observation post is located at each of the following villages in the Ivaylovgrad area:

- Svirachi (N 41-29, E 26-07);
 - Odrintsi (N 41-26, E 26-09); and
 - Siv Kladenets (N 41-25, E 26-10).
15. The following legend refers to the sketches included as Appendix A on pages 5, 6, and 7:

Trenches

Bunkers

Machine Gun and Gun Nests

Bridge Barrier

Antitank Obstacles

- Village of Lozen
- Village of Malko Gradishte
- Village of Vulchepol
- Village of Kamilski Dol
- Village of Dubovets
- Village of Stari Dimitrovo
- Village of Gornoseltsi
- Village of Pokrovyan

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9. Village of Lambush
10. Village of Chukla
11. City of Ivaylovgrad
12. Arda River

16. The following legend refers to the sketches included as Appendix B on page 8:

Figure # 1 - Arda Bridge and its Fortifications

1. Bridge Barrier
2. Antitank Obstacles

Figure # 2 - Bridge Barrier - Top View

1. Concrete and Iron Lateral Blocks for Barrier
2. Concrete and Iron Lateral Blocks for Barrier
3. Iron Axle
4. Wooden Beams
5. Long Iron Spikes

Figure # 3 - The Barrier Beams - Front View

1. Wooden Beam
2. Long Iron Girders Covering Wood

17. The following legend refers to the sketches included as Appendix C on page 9:

Figure # 4 - Concrete Iron Barrier Rest Block

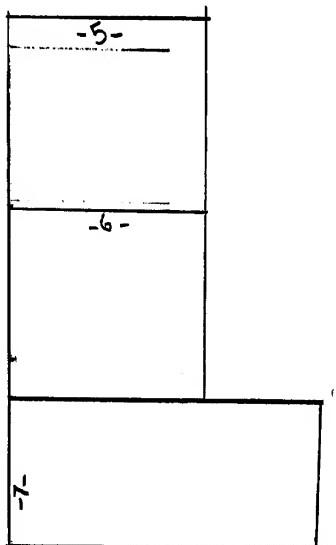
Figure # 5 - Nest for Machine Guns and Guns

Figure # 6 - Bunker

18. The following legend refers to the sketches included as Appendix D on page 10:

Figure # 7 - Antitank Obstacles - Type No. 1

Figure # 8 - Antitank Obstacles - Type No. 2.



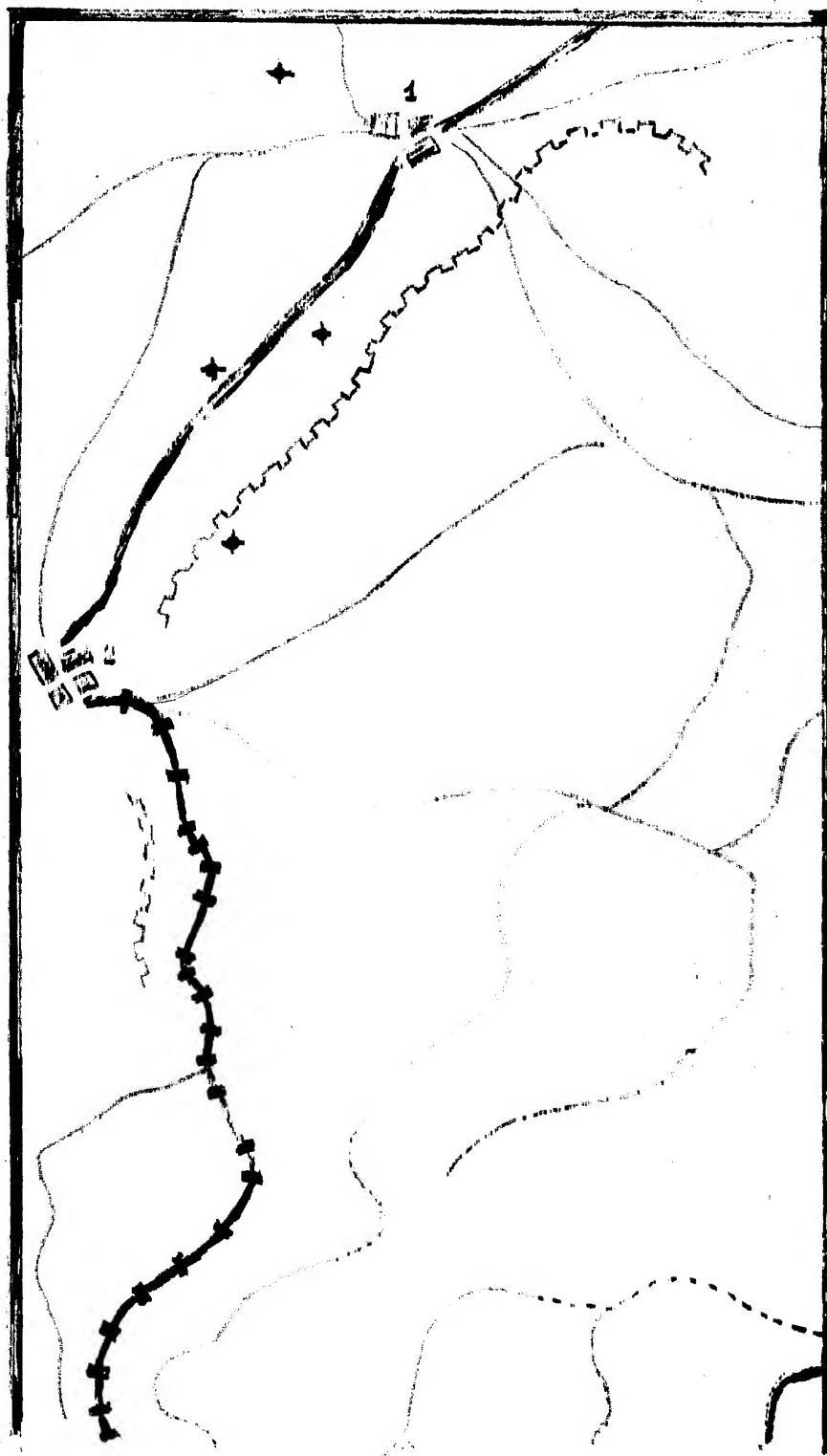
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APPENDIX A



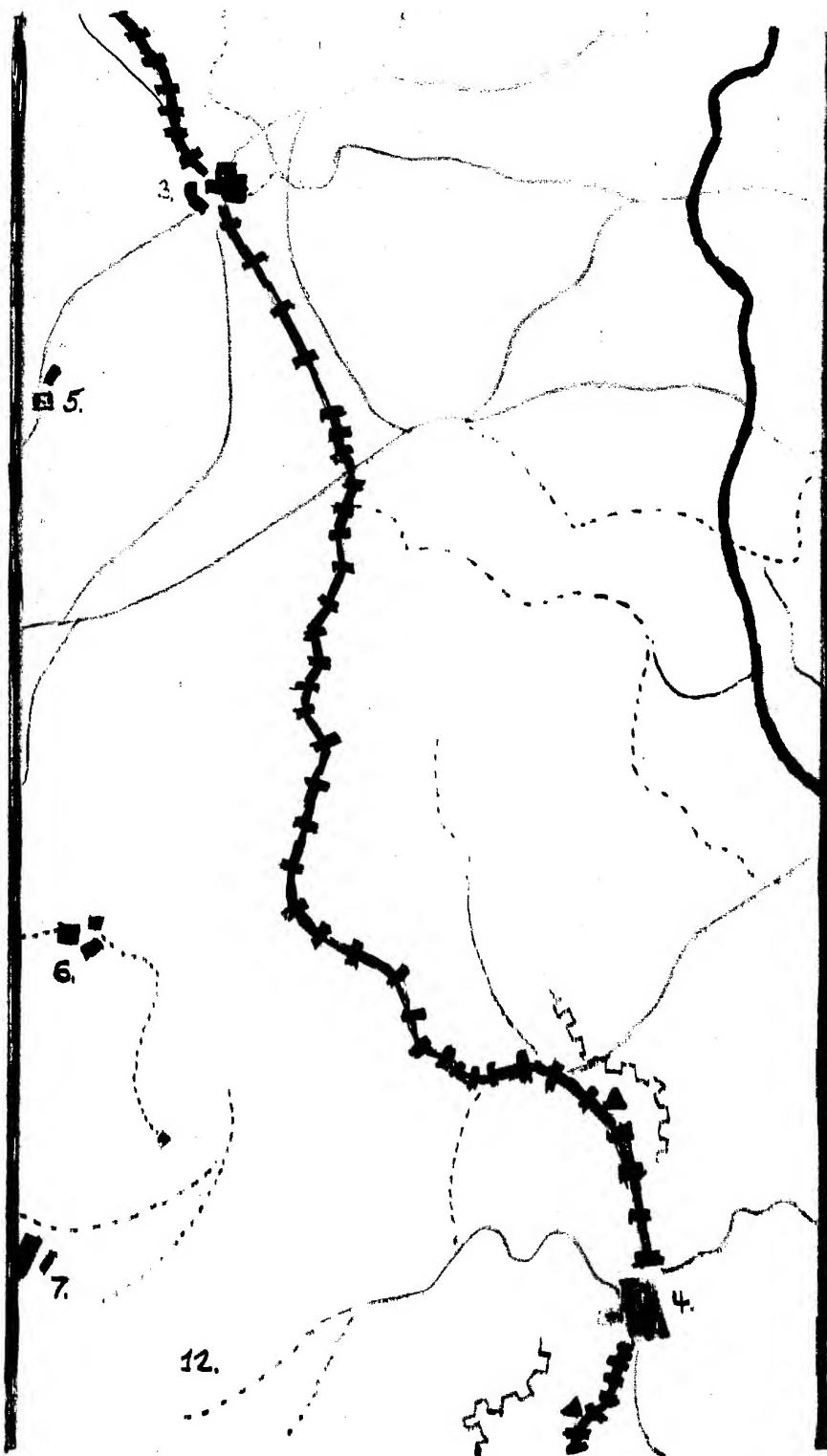
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APPENDIX A



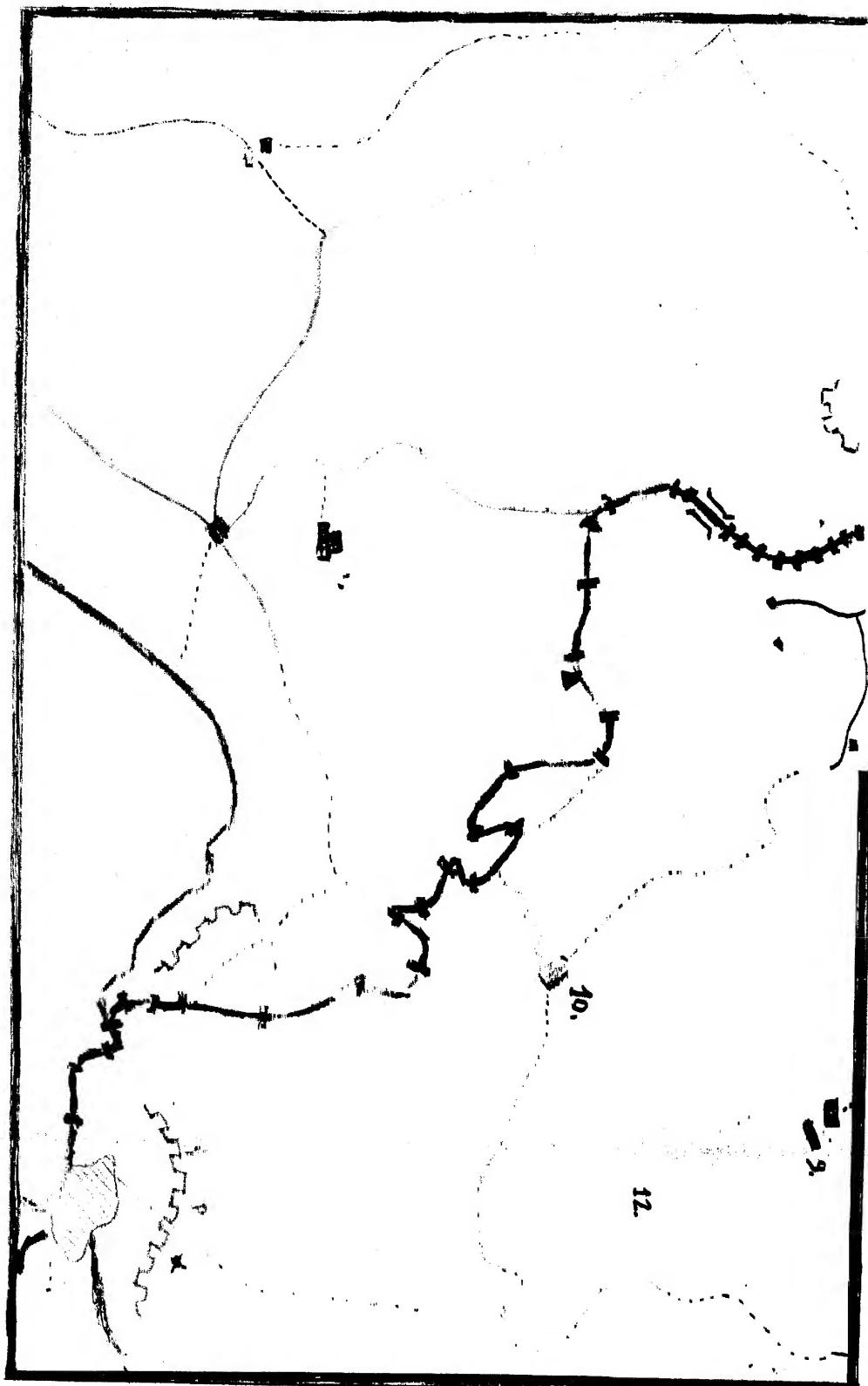
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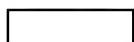


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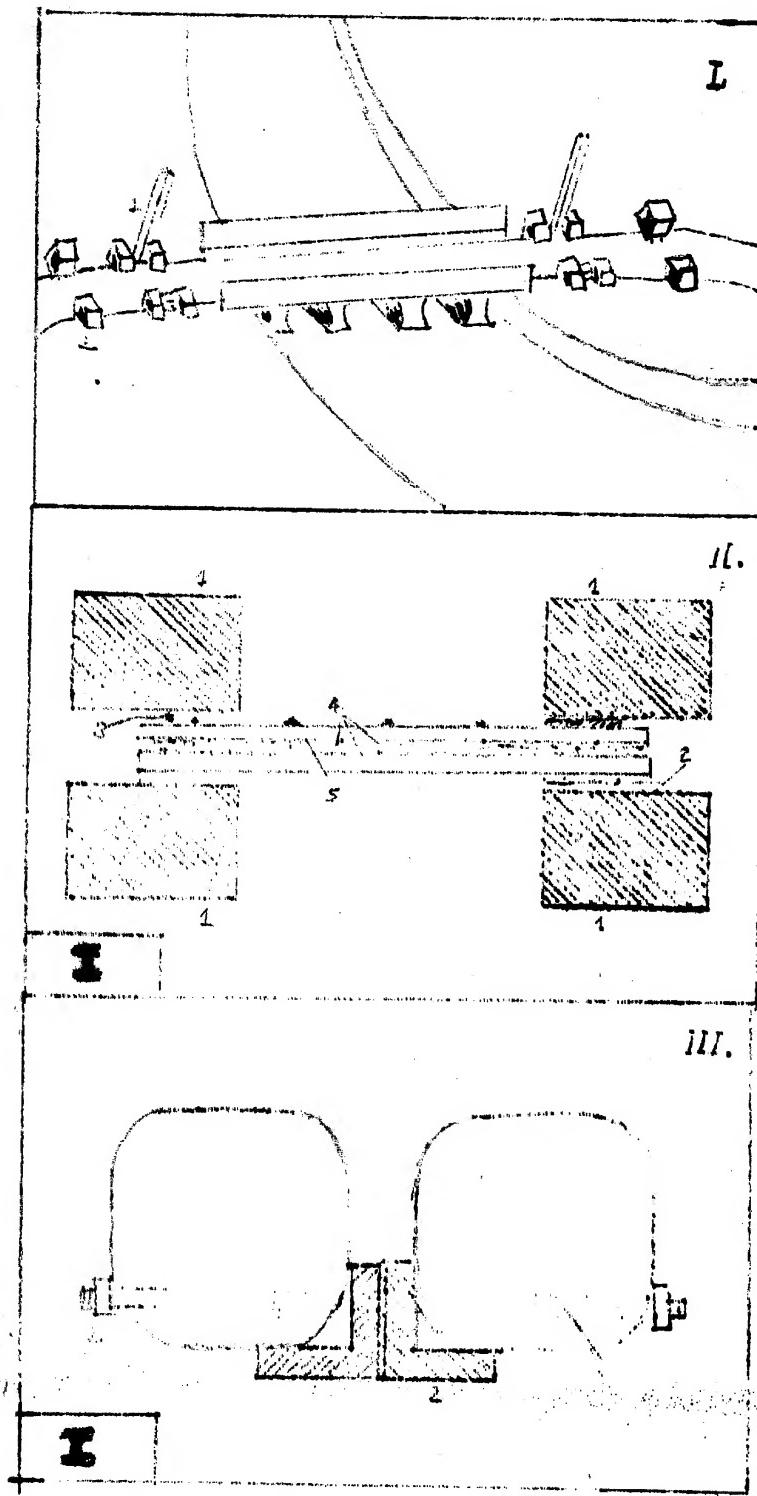
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APPENDIX B



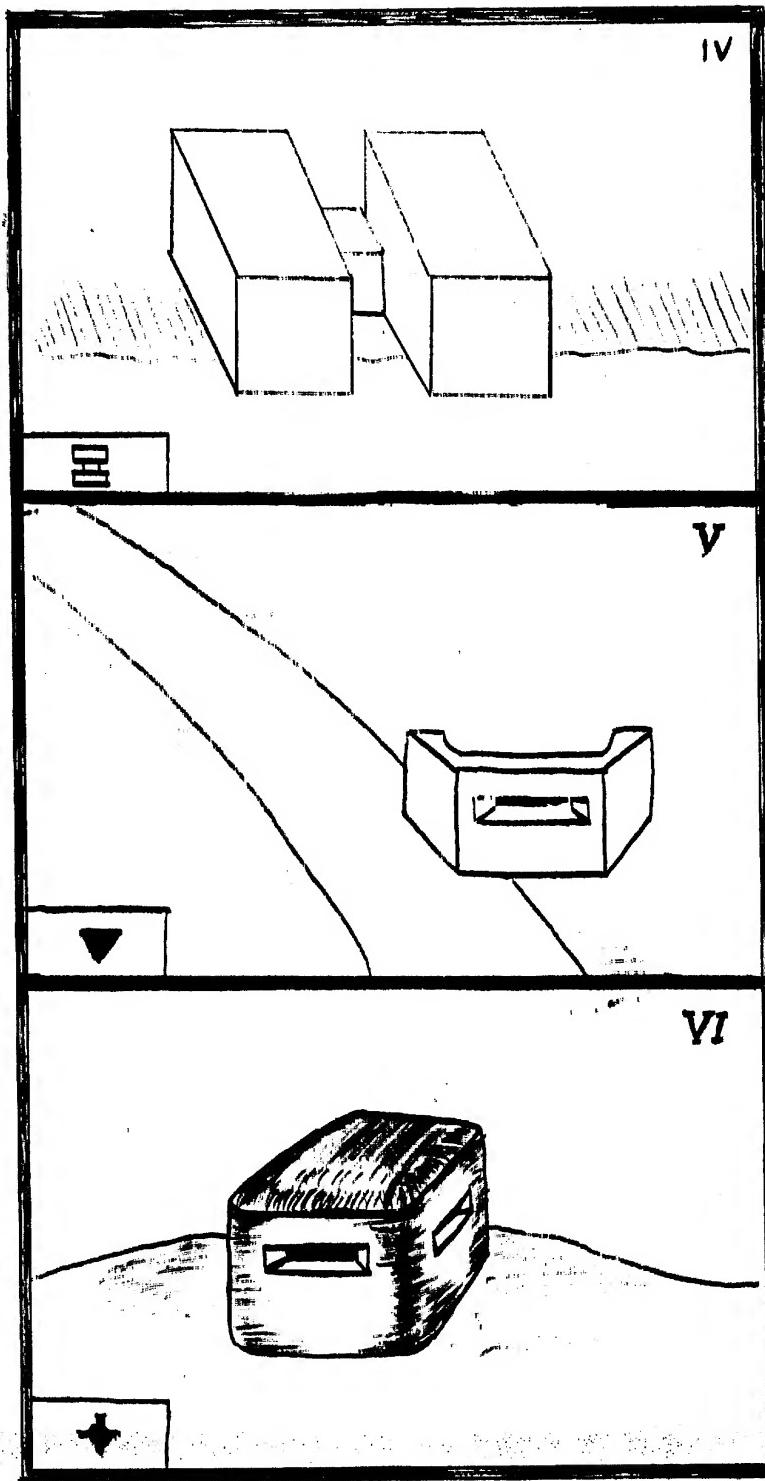
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APPENDIX C



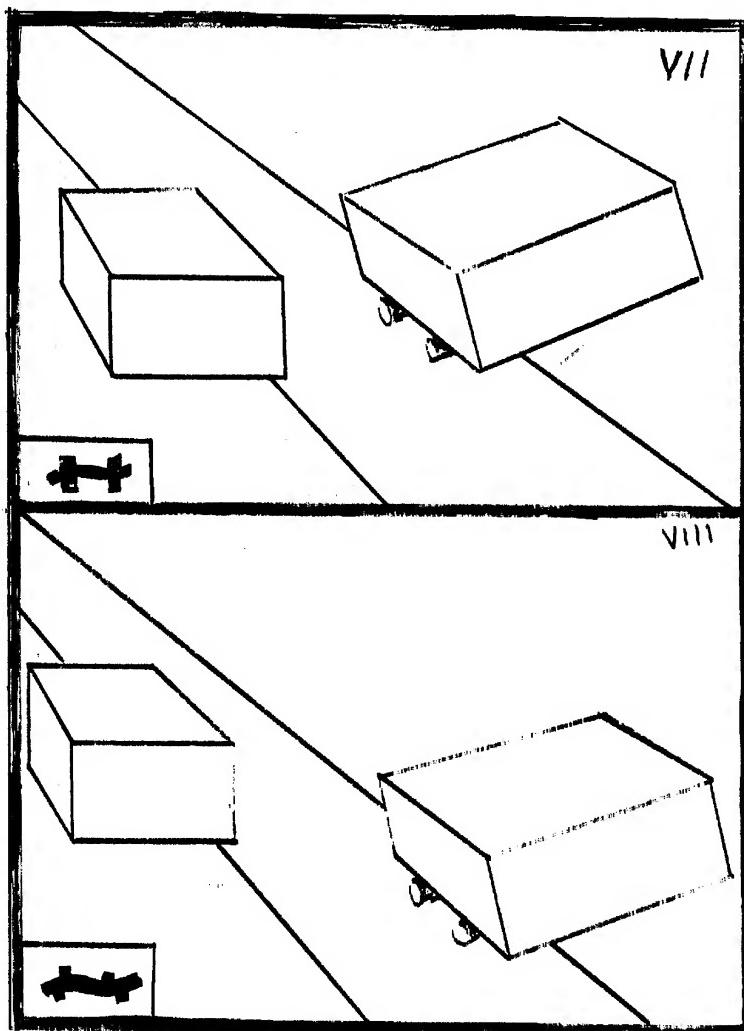
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APPENDIX B



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